



DATE: September 21, 2012
TO: STA TAC
FROM: Janet Adams, Deputy Executive Director/Director of Projects
RE: State Route (SR) 12/Church Road Assessment and Funding Plan

Background:

In October 2001, the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) completed an initial Highway 12 Major Investment Study (MIS) which identified the State Route (SR) 12/Church Road intersection as a Safety Improvement and Long-Term Traffic Improvement Project.

The City of Rio Vista and the STA further studied improvements at this intersection through an engineering study called a Project Study Report (PSR). A PSR is an engineering report, the purpose of which is to document agreement on the scope, schedule, and estimated cost of a project so that the project can be included in a future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). A PSR provides a key opportunity to achieve consensus on project scope, schedule, and proposed cost among Caltrans and involved regional and local agencies. The PSR was fully funded with STIP Planning, Programming, and Monitoring (PPM) funds. As the improvements include the state highway system, Caltrans approved the PSR on June 30, 2010. The next step is to initiate the environmental process for the proposed improvements.

Discussion:

The City of Rio Vista has planned development directly adjacent to this intersection area. In fact, the proposed intersection improvements are an integral component of the adjacent development as the highway operational improvements will facilitate the initial phases of the planned developments. As an environmental document has a limited shelf life, it is important to understand Right-of-Way and construction funding partners and project timing prior to initiating the expenditure of funds for the environmental process. As such, the STA has initiated a \$5,100 contract with the Solano Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to assess the requirements of the adjacent planned developments to fund these improvements and the timing of when these developments are planning to proceed.

Specifically, the EDC will perform the following tasks:

- Review of documents such as the SR 12/Church Project Study Report, Rio Vista Bridge Study, Hwy 12 Economic Assessment, SR 12 Corridor Study documents and Rio Vista General Plan and Zoning provisions regarding drilling and natural gas;
- Meetings with key personal including STA and Rio Vista Staff, and Solano EDC consultants;
- Review of existing and proposed development entitlement applications, environment studies, conditions of approval, and any legal documents;

- Assembly of property owner information, title reports (including any mineral rights and access provisions), easements and restrictive covenants (Note: the cost of any required title reports is not included in this contract);
- Review right-of-way requirements; and
- Preliminary meetings with property owners to determine their interests and issues.

This work by the Solano EDC is scheduled to be completed by mid October 2012. The assessment will help STA determine if it is feasible to initiate the environmental documentation for the project. If it is, then the STA would need to develop a funding plan for all the work required to construction this project. This includes the environmental document, the right-of-way acquisition/dedication and the construction funding. If it is financially feasible to initiate the next steps at this time, then a funding plan needs to be developed. This funding plan could involve the developers directly contributing to the project, in addition to the STA and the City of Rio Vista.

Fiscal Impact:

The initial assessment has been funded by the STA for an amount of up to \$5,100. Should the assessment recommend taking the next step of developing a financial plan, then the plan would need to come back to the STA for approval once drafted by staff.

Recommendation:

Forward a recommendation to the STA Board to authorize the development of a funding plan with the City of Rio Vista for SR 12/Church project.